



Minneapolis
City of Lakes

Cam Gordon

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Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Southeast Como, 11-9-10

Cam's next Southeast Como Office Hours:
Tuesday, December 7th, 9:30-11:00am
SECIA Office, 837 15th Ave SE

Items:

- 1) Budget Comments Taken in November
- 2) Street Sweeping Begins
- 3) Disparity Study
- 4) Bicycle Advisory Committee Restructured
- 5) U Funds Neighborhood Safety
- 6) Temporary Event Parking Ordinance
- 7) Homegrown Minneapolis Stakeholders Meeting
- 8) Community Participation Program Guidelines
- 9) Access and Outreach Team
- 10) Met Council 2030 Transportation Plan
- 11) U of M Trail
- 12) The "New Normal"
- 13) Openings on City Boards and Commissions

- 1) On Thursday, Nov 18, starting at 6:05pm, the City Council will take comment on the Mayor's proposed 2011 budget and property tax levy. Any resident can appear and speak. The meeting will be held at City Hall, 350 South Fifth Street, Room 317. A full copy of the Mayor's Recommended 2011 Budget can be found at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/finance. If you can't attend the meeting I welcome your comments and feedback.
- 2) The 2010 comprehensive fall street sweep and leaf collection program is now under way and will run for approximately three more weeks. Please watch for signs, warn your neighbors and check the city website at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/streetsweep/> for more detailed schedules to help prevent cars from being ticketed and towed.
- 3) The long awaited "disparities" study to help us understand how women-owned and minority-owned businesses compete for contracts offered by the City and in the private sector is now complete. The City commissioned the Disparity Study to examine evidence that would support the continuation of Minneapolis' Small and Underutilized Business Program and see whether any modifications of that program would be beneficial. The Disparity Study looked at the City's procurement process, the locations and ownership of companies that do business with the city and at the overall marketplace and experiences of women-owned and minority-owned businesses that seek contracts in both the public and private sector. It found that discrimination was a contributing factor to obstacles in access to contracts in our marketplace. The study also made a number of recommendations to remedy the situation, including the enhancement of current City efforts to fight discrimination and the addition of new initiatives. These initiatives involve both race- and gender-conscious remedies as well as some race- and gender-neutral initiatives. You can view the study and recommendations here: [Disparity Study](#) (pdf) [Study recommendations](#) (pdf) The City Council is now seeking public comments on the Disparity Study. All comments must be made in writing to the Civil Rights Department in one of two ways: E-mail comments to cynthia.govan@ci.minneapolis.mn.us no later than 4:30 p.m. (CST) on Friday, December 3. Mail to: Minneapolis Civil Rights Department, Attn: Cynthia Govan, 250 S. 4th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415. Letters must be postmarked no later than Friday, December 3, 2010. On December 9, 2010, the Council will be asked to act on any recommendations based on the report. This is the second Disparity Study completed by the City. The original study was completed in 1995 and formed the basis for the creation of the current Small and Underutilized Business Program, which helps address the effects of past discrimination in contracting and to promote equal opportunities for all to participate in contracts generated by the City.

If you need this material in an alternative format, please contact Matt Bower at (612) 673-2188 or Matthew.Bower@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

If you want help translating this call - Hmong- Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2188;

Spanish - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llama 612-673-2188;

Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' an wac 612-673-2188.

If you need disability related accommodations, please contact Matt Bower at (612) 673-2188 or Matthew.Bower@ci.minneapolis.mn.us. TTY: 612-673-2626.

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- 4) The Council has restructured the Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee. For the first time, it will be made up of a majority of community members. Up until now, the majority of members have been City and other organizational staff. It will no longer be chaired by Public Works staff. Instead, the group will choose its own chair and set its own agendas. My office was instrumental in pushing these changes forward over the last two years, and I am thrilled to see our work come to fruition. Each Council Member will appoint one member from his or her ward. If you or anyone you know are interested in representing Ward 2 on the new and improved BAC, please contact the City Clerk's office at (612) 673-3358 or cityclerk@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.
- 5) The Council has formally accepted \$60,000 from the University to provide enhanced police enforcement in neighborhoods around U and \$14,200 to provide security the Gopher Football Stadium. I thank the University for working with the City to increase the livability of U-area neighborhoods.
- 6) The Council has unanimously passed my ordinance that creates a new category of commercial parking lot licenses to permit the issuance of temporary event parking lot licenses near the University of Minnesota Gopher football Stadium. A Class C commercial parking lot license would be available to parking lot owners for up to 15 events per year. Eligibility is limited to nonresidential properties with approved on-site accessory parking lots.
- 7) There will be a community meeting on in December on the Homegrown Minneapolis effort I have been leading to bring more healthy and local food and urban agriculture in Minneapolis. The meeting will be Thursday, **December 9th** from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the UROC (Urban Research and Outreach Center), 2001 Plymouth Avenue North. Everyone is welcome. Look for more information here
- 8) The Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC) has put forward a draft of the Community Participation Program Guidelines that outline how \$3,000,000 will be provided to neighborhood organizations in 2011. Preliminary allocations based on the proposed formula were released as well. The recommended allocation for Southeast Como is \$33,968. The NCEC expects to make its final recommendations to the City Council in November. For further information on the draft guidelines and allocations see <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ncr/>.
- 9) The Neighborhood and Community Relations Department had formed a new Access and Outreach team that specializes in addressing and removing barriers to participation and meaningful engagement where cultural norms, practices or language limit access. These services are available to both City departments and neighborhood organizations. The Access and Outreach team has the cultural experience and the ability to communicate in Spanish, Somali, Oromo, Amharic, Hmong and American Sign Language. To learn more about how to take advantage of this visit <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ncr/access-and-outreach.asp>
- 10) The Metropolitan Council is working on a 2030 regional transportation policy plan. The City Council has commented on the plan, advocating an additional emphasis on rail and calling for a regional bicycle master plan. You can learn more here <http://www.metrocouncil.org/planning/transportation/TPP/2010/index.htm>.
- 11) The Council has approved an additional \$247,765 in funding to make completion of the bike trail in the Dinkytown trench possible next year. Known as The U of M Trail, Phase III, it was conceived in the 1990s to provide an off-road bicycle and pedestrian trail between downtown Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota's Minneapolis & St. Paul campuses. The project limits are the east approach of Bridge #9 to the intersection of 5th Street SE and Oak Street SE. The project will also provide additional trail access at East River Road and a pedestrian access at 17th Avenue SE / 5th Street SE. The entire project will cost over 3 million dollars.
- 12) On October 29th the City Council heard from State Economist Tom Stinson and State Demographer Tom Gillaspay outlining how Minneapolis and the rest of the state will have to adjust to an aging population and a more efficient job force as the nation makes its way out of the recession. The report shared statistics about how the state's economy has changed and how the state is forecasting future growth by predicting demographic changes. The state is projecting that the "new normal" could include higher interest rates, slower economic growth, an aging population, decreased consumption and more savings, a diverse population, and more uncertainty in personal and national futures. To view the complete presentation go here <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/news/docs/StateDemographicTrendsOct2010.pdf>
- 13) There are openings on the Arts Commission, Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC), Commission on Civil Rights, Civilian Police Review Authority, Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities, Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC), Latino Advisory Committee, Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC), Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission, Telecommunications Network (MTN), Youth Violence Prevention Executive Committee and Zoning Board of Adjustment. To apply, call (612) 673-3358 or email cityclerk@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.